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December 22, 2006

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ICC APPROVES REVISED DELIVERY RATES FOR COMED

The Illinois Commerce Commission issued an order on rehearing this week in the ComEd delivery service case, Docket 05-0597, in which it determined the company was entitled to approximately \$74 million in additional revenue.

The Commission decision came after several months of debate over cuts the Commission made to ComEd's original request for \$345.5 million in new revenue in July. At that time the Commission determined the company was entitled to \$8.3 million in new revenue. With the increase approved in the order on rehearing, new revenue will total approximately \$83 million, bringing the total operating revenue to \$1.7 billion.

In the order on rehearing the Commission agreed that review of the evidence justified an additional increase for administrative and general expenses including an allowance for half of the estimated Sarbanes-Oxley compliance expense.

Delivery service rates will take effect in January. It will be the first increase in rates for most ComEd customers since 1997, since rates were lowered initially and then frozen through the end of this year. The Commission reviewed distribution rates and approved additional operating revenue for the company in 1999 and 2001, but only large industrial or commercial customers opting for an alternative supplier paid delivery rates to the utility.

Distribution rates account for between 20 and 30 percent of a customer bill.

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